

International Colloquium of Social Sciences and Communication
ACUM 2024, 13th Edition
04-07 November 2026
Social Dynamics and Digital Transformations: Navigating
Communication, Technology, and Society in the 21st Century

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME – SHORT FORM

Address: Aula Sergiu T. Chiriacescu (Strada Iuliu Maniu 41A, Braşov 500091)

<https://g.co/kgs/fZd9Dt8>

DAY 1 – 04.11.2026

10.00 – 11.00 Registration, Aula Sergiu T. Chiriacescu

11.00 – 11.30 Welcome message

11.30 – 12.30 Keynote Speaker Malissa Clark, PhD, Professor of Industrial-Organizational Psychology, Head of the Department of Psychology, and Director of the Healthy Work Lab at the University of Georgia. <https://psychology.uga.edu/directory/people/malissa-clark>

12.30 – 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 – 18.00 Parallel sessions

16.00-16.30 Coffe break

Room UI6 Panel 2	Room UI7 Panel 7	Room UI3 Panel 11	Room UI2 Panel 12	Room UII3 Panel 15
14.00 – 16.00 -	14.00 – 16.00 -	14.00 – 16.00 -	14.00 – 16.00 -	14.00 – 16.00 -
16.30 – 18.00 -	16.30 – 18.00 -	16.30 – 18.00 -	16.30 – 18.00 -	16.30 – 18.00 -

DAY 2 – 05.11.2026

09.30 – 10.00 Registration, Aula Sergiu T. Chiriacescu

09.00 – 13.00 UNITA Annual Conference - European Identity and the Politics of Memory (Room AULA)

10.00 – 13.00 – Parallel sessions

13.00 – 14.00 – Lunch break

14.00-15.00 **Keynote speaker Eszter Hargittai**, PhD, Professor and Chair of Internet Use and Society at University of Zurich and one of the world's leading scholars on digital inequality, internet use, and digital literacy. <https://www.ikmz.uzh.ch/en/research/divisions/internet-use-and-society/team/eszter-hargittai.html>

15.00-15.30 **Book Launch (in Romanian): Assoc. Prof. Dr. Romeo Asiminei**, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and Social-Political Sciences at Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi. (2026). Introducere în metode mixte de cercetare. Editura Tritonic (Tritonic Bookstand).. https://www.fssp.uaic.ro/images/fssp/CV-uri/en/CV-europass_Romeo-Asiminei_EN_2026-09_online.pdf

15.30-16.00 Coffe break

16.00-18.00 **Workshop no 1. Romanian Sociologists Society (SSR)** (in Romanian language). Sociologia românească acum: relevanță publică, identitate profesională și rolul sociologului într-o societate în schimbare (Coordinator: Professor PhD Adrian Hatos — President of Romanian Sociologists Society - SSR).

16.30-18.30 **Workshop no 2. Staying Well While Doing Good: Burnout Prevention for Social Workers** (in Romanian language) (Coordinator: Professor PhD Gabriela Dima, Transilvania University of Braşov)

18.30-19.30 **Workshop no 3. What do employers expect from a Social Work graduate?** (Meeting with employers in the field of social work) (in Romanian language) (Coordinator: Professor PhD Gabriela Dima, Transilvania University of Braşov)



16.00 – 18.00 – Parallel sessions

Room UI6 Panel 5	Room UI7 Panel 9	Room UI2 Panel 3	Room UI3 Panel 8	Room TSB (Ground floor)	Room UII3
10.00 – 13.00 -	10.00 – 13.00	10.00 – 13.00	10.00 – 13.00	-	-
Room UI6 Panel 5	Room UI7 Panel 14 Part 1	Room UI2 Panel 4	Room UI3 Panel 17	Workshop No. 2 (Social workers) Workshop No. 3	Workshop No. 1 (SSR)
16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	16.30-18.30 18.30-19.30	16.00- 18.00

19.30 – 22.00 Official dinner

DAY 3 – 06.11.2026

09.30 – 10.00 Registration, Aula Sergiu T. Chiriacescu

10.00 – 11.00 **Keynote Speaker Michael Ungar**, PhD, Professor at the School of Social Work and founder and Director of the Resilience Research Centre at Dalhousie University, where he holds the Canada Research Chair in Child, Family and Community Resilience.
<https://www.dal.ca/faculty/health/socialwork/faculty-staff/our-faculty/michael-ungar.html>

11.00 – 12.00 **Keynote Speaker Cristina Grasseni**, PhD, Professor of Anthropology at Leiden University and an internationally recognized scholar in economic and multimodal anthropology..
<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/staffmembers/cristina-grasseni#tab-1>

12.30 – 13.30 – Lunch break

14.00 -16.00 – **Workshop session for researchers no. 4: Researching Resilience and Evaluating Resilience-Promoting Programs: Culturally and Contextually Sensitive, Mixed Methods Approaches to Transformative Inquiry** (Coordinator: Michael Ungar, PhD, Professor at the School of Social Work and founder and Director of the Resilience Research Centre at Dalhousie University)

16.00-18.00-**Workshop no 5.** What do employers expect from a Communication Sciences graduate in the AI era? (Meeting with employers in the field of communication sciences) (Coordinator: Professor PhD Florin Nechita, Transilvania University of Braşov)



13.30 – 18.00 – Parallel sessions

15.30-16.00 Coffe break

Room UI6 Panel 13	Room UI7 Panel 14 Part 2	Room UI2 Panel 6	Room UI3 Panel 18	Room UII3 Workshop no. 4	Room TSB (Ground floor) Workshop no. 5
13.30-15.30	13.30-15.30	13.30-15.30	13.30-15.30	14.00-16.00	16.00-18.00
16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00		

DAY 4 – 07.11.2026

09.00 – 09.30 Registration, Aula Sergiu T. Chiriacescu

09.30 – 13.00– Parallel sessions

11.00-11.30 Coffe break

13.00 – 14.00 – Lunch break

Room UI2 Panel 10	Room UI7 Panel 16	Room UI3 Panel 19
09.30-13.00	09.30-13.00	09.30-13.00

ACUM 2026 – List of Panels

Panel 2. MAPPING SOCIAL RISK IN PRIMARY PREVENTION: SOCIAL NETWORK ANALYSIS AND THE CIRCULATION OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASE DETERMINANTS

Coordinator(s): Professor PhD Marian-Gabriel Hâncean & Lecturer PhD Bianca-Elena Mihăilă — University of Bucharest

Panel 3. DIGITAL FRONTIERS OF POLITICAL COMMUNICATION: ELECTORAL CRISES, POPULIST DISRUPTION, AND THE RECONFIGURATION OF DEMOCRATIC DISCOURSE

Coordinator(s): Assoc. Prof. PhD Romeo Asiminei & Assist. Prof. PhD Sergiu Bortos — Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi

Panel 4. DIGITAL WORLDS AS INCARNATE PLAY: ANTHROPOLOGICAL POTENTIAL IN DYNAMIC TIMES

Coordinator(s): Assoc. Prof. PhD Mihai Burlacu — Transilvania University of Brasov; Senior Researcher PhD Gabriel Stoiciu — 'Francisc Rainer' Institute of Anthropology

Panel 5. EDUCATION, LABOUR MARKET AND SOCIAL POLICIES: PATHWAYS TO INCLUSION AND EQUITY

Coordinator(s): Assoc. Prof. PhD Gabriela Motoi — University of Craiova

Panel 6. GLOBALIZATION AND GLOCALIZATION: TOWARDS AN INTERSECTIONAL APPROACH TO SOCIAL PHENOMENA

Coordinator(s): Professor PhD Claudiu Coman — Transilvania University of Brasov; Professor PhD Lucian Marina — 1 Decembrie 1918 University of Alba Iulia

Panel 7. SOCIETIES UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL PRESSURE: KNOWLEDGE, BEHAVIOR, AND COMMUNICATION IN THE AGE OF ECOLOGICAL CRISIS

Coordinator(s): Professor PhD Laura Nistor — Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania, Cluj-Napoca; Lecturer PhD Andreea-Claudia Mardache — Transilvania University of Brasov

Panel 8. HUMAN AGENCY AND ORGANIZATIONAL DYNAMICS: FROM TRADITIONAL BEHAVIORAL FOUNDATIONS TO AI-DRIVEN SHIFTS

Coordinator(s): Professor PhD Carmen Buzea & Assoc. Prof. PhD Horia Moaşa — Transilvania University of Braşov

Panel 9. VULNERABLE POPULATION AND DIGITALIZATION

Coordinator(s): Professor PhD Adrian Netedu & Assoc. Prof. PhD Lucian Sfetcu — Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi

Panel 10. FEELING RULES IN MOTION: TECHNOLOGIES THAT RESHAPE EMOTIONAL LIFE

Coordinator(s): Professor PhD Cosima Rughiniş & Lecturer PhD Simona Vulpe — University of Bucharest

Panel 11. RETHINKING SOCIAL WORK IN TIMES OF SOCIAL CHANGE

Coordinator(s): Professor PhD Gabriela Dima & Assoc. Prof. PhD Marinela Şimon — Transilvania University of Braşov

Panel 12. RECONFIGURING EDUCATION IN THE DIGITAL AGE: A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE ON INEQUALITY, SOCIAL RELATIONS, AND LEARNING ECOLOGIES

Coordinator(s): Professor PhD Adrian Hatos — University of Oradea

Panel 13. DEMOCRATIC RESILIENCE IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT: LAW, CONFLICT AND PARTICIPATION

Coordinator(s): Assoc. Prof. PhD Ana-Maria Bolborici — Transilvania University of Brasov; Assoc. Prof. LLM 01 Pitt Angela Maria Romito — Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro

Panel 14. AGEING WITHOUT CRISIS? CARE, INEQUALITY, AND REGIMES OF RESPONSIBILITY IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Coordinator(s): Lecturer PhD Ionuţ Foldes, Lecturer PhD Adriana Teodorescu & Researcher PhD Mihaela Hărăguş — Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

Panel 15. GENDER RETINA: GENDER STEREOTYPES IN CONTEMPORARY VISUAL CULTURE

Coordinator(s): Assoc. Prof. PhD Alina Coman — Transilvania University of Brasov

Panel 16. NAVIGATING SOCIAL COHESION IN TURBULENT TIMES: CONCEPTUAL, EMPIRICAL, AND POLICY PERSPECTIVES

Coordinator(s): Assist. Prof. PhD Bianca Mădălina Popa & Lecturer PhD Livia Pogan — Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu; Professor PhD Tatiana Spătaru — Moldova State University

Panel 17. EUROPEAN IDENTITY, POLITICS OF MEMORY, AND ENGAGING EUROPE'S TOTALITARIAN PAST

Coordinator(s): Professor PhD Gabriela Răţulea & Professor PhD Florin Nechita — Transilvania University of Brasov

Panel 18. CHILDHOOD IN THE DIGITAL AGE: POLICY REGULATION, PARENTAL MEDIATION, AND CHILDREN'S DIGITAL RIGHTS

Coordinator(s): Researcher PhD Anca Velicu — Institute of Sociology, Romanian Academy; Professor PhD Diana Cheianu-Andrei — International Center 'La Strada', Moldova

Panel 19. VARIA. INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Coordinator(s): Professor PhD Codrina Csezneck & Assoc. Prof. PhD Luiza Mesesan Schmitz — Transilvania University of Brasov

Scientific Committee

Prof. Dr. Michael Ungar, Dalhousie University, Canada

Prof. Dr. Malissa Clark, University of Georgia, Georgia

Prof. Dr. Cristina Grasseni, Leiden University, Netherlands

Prof. Dr. Eszter Hargittai, University of Zurich, Switzerland

Prof. Dr. Angela Maria Romito, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro, Italy

Prof. Dr. De Angelis Monica, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Italy

Prof. Dr. Takanori Kawamata, Meisei University, Japan

Prof. Dr. Nilay Ulusoy, Bahcesehir University, Turkey

Prof. Dr. Joaquim Brigas, Guarda Polytechnic University, Portugal

Prof. Dr. Adrian Hatos, University of Oradea

Prof. Dr. Gabriel Hancean, University of Bucharest

Prof. Dr. Carmen Buzea, Transilvania University of Brasov

Prof. Dr. Gabriela Răţulea, Transilvania University of Brasov

Prof. Dr. Lucian Marina, 1 Decembrie 1918 University of Alba Iulia

Prof. Dr. Laura Nistor, Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania, Cluj-Napoca

Prof. Dr. Cosima Rughiniş, University of Bucharest

Prof. Dr. Adrian Netedu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi

Organizing Committee

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Horia Moaşa, Transilvania University of Brasov

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Luiza Meseşan-Schmitz, Transilvania University of Brasov

Prof. Dr. Codrina Csesznek, Transilvania University of Brasov

Prof. Dr. Florin Nechita, Transilvania University of Brasov

Prof. Dr. Gabriela Dima, Transilvania University of Brasov

Prof. Dr. Claudiu Coman, Transilvania University of Brasov

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marinela Şimon, Transilvania University of Brasov

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arabela Briciu, Transilvania University of Brasov

Assoc. Prof. Victor Briciu, Transilvania University of Brasov

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alina Coman, Transilvania University of Brasov

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ana-Maria Bolborici, Transilvania University of Brasov

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mihai Burlacu, Transilvania University of Brasov

Lect. Dr. Andreea Mardache, Transilvania University of Brasov